

GENESIS ACCEPTED



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A Mammoth Problem

'The Womb of the Ice'

Part 2



Daily Mail 11.7.07

Just occasionally there is a buzz of excitement in the scientific world because the remains of a nearly intact mammoth are discovered. This happened last year when the female baby (pictured right) was unearthed in Siberia, near the Yurlei River on the Yamal Peninsula, and preserved for posterity. It is said to be the most perfectly preserved specimen ever and she was found lying on her side in exactly the same position she had been when she died. She had all her legs and trunk, though her tail had disappeared. She also had her eyes intact, and some fur on her body. She was a baby, about 4ft 3in tall and weighed 7st 8lb (110lb). Scientists believe she was between six months and a year old when she died.

The Permafrost

We sometimes get the impression that there are many such finds made but the truth is that only around a dozen have ever been found. That doesn't mean that there won't be more to come, because they are preserved in the permafrost of the northern hemisphere, particularly in northern Russia, and especially in Siberia. The permafrost is a region of soil and clay deposits where, at depth, it is usually frozen all year. Above it is a zone which freezes in winter and melts in summer, giving boggy wet conditions on the surface. It is a hostile environment, almost useless for agriculture - though some grazing animals do browse there in summer - and

would be almost ignored by human activity were it not for the mineral wealth in the underlying rocks. It gets very cold indeed in winter and bottoms around Verkhoyansk, where temperatures can be as low as -60°F (-50°C approximately) on average. In summer it reaches 60°F (16°C) giving a seasonal range of 120°F (66°C) which is an amazing figure. Mammoth carcass remains usually surface during warmer summers, when the ground melts to slightly greater depths and exposes them. Quite a few may have surfaced but never been found because of their remote location, and the scavenging activities of wild animals, like wolves, which devoured them before discovery could be made. Often it is hunting dogs who initially find these carcasses, and then their owners report back to the authorities - as happened in the case here.

Non-carcass remains

Most mammoth remains, however, are not whole carcasses, or soft parts, but rather are just tusks and other bones. In a bizarre sort of way, they also bring people into the permafrost zones because there is a lucrative living to be made out of selling their ivory. This would not be so if it were

not for the fact that such remains are superabundant in the areas concerned. This is not a recent trade. It seems to have been known since the time of Pliny, in the First Century A.D., and the Chinese were famous for working delicate designs in ivory from the north. There has been a known trade in this ivory since 1582 after Siberia was conquered by the Cossack Yermak under Ivan the Terrible.¹

The Times for Wednesday 19th September 2007 carried the picture (below left) with the following information:

'Prehistoric bones are not hard to find in the northernmost reaches of Siberia. The permafrost is thawing so rapidly that in some places in the tundra the bones of lions, mammoths and woolly rhinos poke out through the soil every few metres. The storage room of the Ice Age Museum in Moscow, where Alexander Svalov holds a mammoth bone, is packed with examples.

'The company that runs the museum holds government licences allowing it to excavate and export prehistoric relics. Private collectors and scientific institutes - from the United States to South Korea - will pay huge sums for the right specimen. A well-preserved tusk, Mr Svalov says, can sell to private collectors for up to \$20,000 (£10,000), while a reconstructed mammoth skeleton can fetch between \$150,000 and \$250,000.

'Bone prospectors such as Aleksandr Vatagin have turned this region of Siberia, eight time zones from Moscow, into a palaeontological Klondyke. "Last year someone was paid 800,000 roubles (£16,000) for a mammoth head with two tusks," he said. He employs fishermen and reindeer herders from the tiny Yukagir





ethnic group, whose keen eyes and local knowledge help them to find the best artefacts.'

The scale of the situation

From the reports of early explorers in these regions we find that the amount of tusks and bones of mammoths and other animals is so great as almost to defy description. In the days of Catherine II (The Great) (1729-96), who ruled from 1762, the Liakhov Islands, which lie 600 miles inside the Arctic Circle, were visited by Liakhov, who gave his name to them. He reported, 'that they abounded in mammoths' bones. "Such was the enormous quantity of mammoths' remains that it seemed... that the island was actually composed of the bones and tusks of elephants, cemented together by icy sand."

*"The New Siberian Islands, discovered in 1805 and 1806, as well as the islands of Stolbovoi and Belkov to the west, present the same picture. "The soil of these desolate islands is absolutely packed full of the bones of elephants and rhinoceroses in astonishing numbers." These islands were full of mammoth bones, and the quantity of tusks and teeth of elephants and rhinoceroses, found in the newly discovered island of New Siberia, was perfectly amazing, and surpassed anything which has as yet been discovered.'*²

Michael Oard, a meteorologist who has made the Ice Age a special area of study from a Creationist perspective, estimates that across the permafrost zones of the north, where mammoths used to roam, the number five million animals would not be an unacceptable figure.

Implications

Obviously, if these figures are remotely accurate - and I have no reason to doubt them - fecundity amongst mammoths in the immediate post-Flood times must have been high to arrive at these sorts of figures from two originals coming out of the Ark.

However this is not the major problem presented by these statistics. Mammoths, we know, are close relatives of the modern elephant and one elephant eats around 400lb of food per day. The vegetation of the permafrost regions could not support one mammoth today let alone five million! Yet here they are, along with all sorts of other

animals who also have their dietary needs to satisfy, living in an area where there is a scarcity of food. Obviously, at the time they lived there, there was sufficient food for them all. We know from examining the stomach contents of the few carcasses we have been fortunate to find, that they were busy eating when they were overcome, and that the vegetation they were browsing on is found today very much further south.

So we have to imagine a picture of massive herds of mammoths happily grazing on luxuriant vegetation, which grew in milder conditions, suddenly being overcome and dying almost instantly, in some cases, and possibly over a few hours, or maybe days, in others. There were no survivors. Not only did they die but the temperature tumbled immediately and the subsoil froze so quickly and permanently that their remains were preserved as if in a huge natural deep-freeze. We know this



**Dima (Lucerne Switzerland)
Preserved baby woolly mammoth**

occurred post-Flood because mammoths and man intermingled, with some drawings sketched on to cave walls, and worked flint implements found mixed into the remains. Though not nearly as massive or devastating as the Flood, of course, this was still an enormous event. Fortunately it happened well away from the then centres of population. It did not come slowly as a gradual downwards change in temperature brought on the ice and became the norm, because the animals would simply have migrated south to warmer climes. They did not have that option and were entombed in their icy freezer almost instantly. Only a favoured few survived with their remains almost intact. Most were shredded into bits and only their bones survived intact. The force of the catastrophe which hit them must have been enormous.

Theories of the origins of the Ice Age must account for the mammoths

The coming of the Ice Age is absolutely intertwined with the fate of the mammoths. If it were just about the fate of the mammoths, it could be argued that they died at some point during, or at the end of, the Ice Age, but other factors considered in *Genesis Accepted* Number 12 also have to be considered and accounted for. These articles should be read together and then, once the whole picture is taken into

account, a consistent scenario begins to suggest itself.

You do not get a sudden temperature drop of the speed and intensity to freeze the subsoil and preserve mammoth remains if the ice came as a result of volcanic activity blocking out the sunlight even for a few years. It would go cold quickly but not cold enough, fast enough. When asked how you could deep-freeze a mammoth, the Bird's Eye Company estimated that you could only achieve this by tipping it into a vat of liquid nitrogen at -140°C.³ Whether this is absolutely accurate or not is not the point. This points to the scale of the problem and slow, or slowish, temperature drops do not qualify. The mammoths not only have to be frozen instantly, they have to be taken by surprise in the middle of browsing on the luxuriant vegetation they were used to in these regions.

The entombing matrix

The clue to the demise of all of these millions of animals, not just mammoths, in these areas lies in what they are buried. If it were almost undisturbed sediments, we would not be looking for a catastrophic explanation of events; but it's not. There are two types of burial matrices and conditions: muck and loess.

1 - Muck

In Alaska, gold is mined out of gravels and 'muck'. This muck overlies the gravels and has to be removed, usually by hydraulic pressure hoses, before miners can reach the gold-bearing gravels. It consists of a frozen mass of silt mixed in with masses of animal bones and carcass bits, plus uprooted, splintered trees. It is clear that they were deposited under catastrophic conditions. Also there is evidence of volcanic ash mixed in with it, which is consistent with violent activity in the area. 'Mammal remains are for the most part dismembered and disarticulated, even though some fragments yet retain, in their frozen state, portions of ligaments, skin, hair, and flesh. Twisted and torn trees are piled in splintered masses... [and] it is also apparent that the trees could have been uprooted and splintered only by hurricane or flood or a combination of both agencies. The animals could have been dismembered only by a stupendous wave that lifted and carried and smashed and tore and buried millions of bodies and millions of trees. Also the area of the catastrophe was much greater than the action of a few volcanoes could have covered.'⁴ This resonates with huge wind storms and massive tsunami conditions, accompanied by earthquakes and some volcanic eruptions.

2 - Loess

In China there are vast accumulations of aeolian - wind borne - deposits of fine silt, called loess. The Hwang Ho river flows through it and has picked up so much silt as it does that it is called the 'Yellow River'

because that is its permanent colour, and it flows into the Yellow Sea. All across Europe and North America we find this loess. In America it is usually called adobe. The First World War was fought in trenches which were easily dug in it, in northern France, and in China people often carve out caves for themselves to live in. Swifts nesting in the roofs of these caves provide the necessary ingredients for that most specialist of Chinese delicacies known as birds' nest soup! Its soil is fertile and vital to the economy wherever it is found.

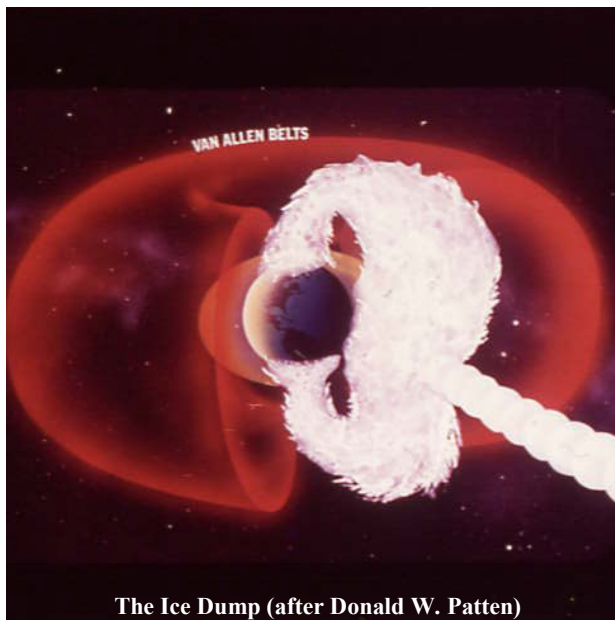
Some loess has been drawn from desert regions but most is acknowledged to have blown in from glaciated areas close to the edges of the ice. These vast accumulations, often hundreds of feet thick, were produced, on conventional reckoning, by winds, called katabatic winds by meteorologists, blowing out off the ice caps and carrying dust from their edges to all points distant.

Mammoth burials

Most of the whole, or almost whole, mammoth remains are actually entombed in loess thereby proving that it came suddenly, in great quantities, and did not build up slowly over time. Had it done so they would not have been trapped in it, but there was no time for migration. They were eating when it occurred and they appear to have suffocated. So what we are witnessing is the result of amazing dust storms - massively bigger and more intense than the one pictured below - which not only entombed the unfortunate animals but also froze as quickly as it entombed them to such degrees that it has never thawed out from then until now, i.e. around 4,500 years, approximately. They were caught in a deep burial and a deep freeze simultaneously. It was an enormous catastrophe which suddenly hit them!

When the Ice Dump struck

In the previous *Genesis Accepted* (Number 12) we outlined the mechanism of the Ice Dump, and we reproduce the picture again here because it is such an important



The Ice Dump (after Donald W. Patten)

concept. We believe that the ice came from the disintegration of an icy astral body which flew too close to the Earth and was torn apart by gravitational forces within it. On its descent the particles picked up an electrical charge and consequently were deflected to the North and South Magnetic Poles, where the Earth's magnetic shield is weakest.

It fell on the Earth suddenly, in a matter of a day, or days, or possibly weeks but no longer, and its effects can be imagined. These areas were plunged into sub-zero temperatures instantly, but because the centres of the descent were over the magnetic poles and not the axial poles the ice spread out lopsidedly over both regions. In the north, where there are large land masses, many high latitudes zones in Alaska and Siberia, which today are amongst the coldest places on Earth, were never glaciated, which, under conventional thinking is most peculiar.

Of course it would not be simply a matter of ice falling from the sky. The

gravitational forces which tore the icy body apart would have resonated in the Earth's crust too, creating earthquakes and increased vulcanicity. These volcanic outbursts did not cause the Ice Age but were a parallel consequence of it. Falling through the atmosphere with plummeting temperatures would trigger storms the like of which it is hard for us to imagine. Dust particles would be picked up in huge quantities and blown outwards away from the glacial dumping ground, being redeposited all over the

land especially those closer to the impact areas, which is where the mammoths were grazing in their vast herds. The ice landing in the sea areas at great speed would create enormous waves which would devastate adjacent land areas, uprooting and splintering trees, tearing carcasses and wood into shreds, mixing them up with silt and then piling them up into huge deposits of what we now call 'muck', and freezing the lot. These waves were tsunami which did far more damage than the Boxing Day (26th December) 2004 we have all learned from, with regard to these geological phenomena.

Conclusion

This scenario is what we believe best fits the data and explains the Ice Age. It is a complicated subject and we have only sketched in the concepts in simple terms. You will not read about such things in the regular science books nor indeed in the current Creationist literature, for most Creationist shy clear of considering an astral source for the Ice Age. I did not invent or think up this scenario all by myself. I simply read the right books! (They have been referenced for you elsewhere.)

A couple of final points to ponder. With these things still to come, is it any wonder that God left the rainbow to comfort man and give him the promise that He would never again destroy the Earth by Flood? And why were the people of these immediate post-Flood days obsessed with star-gazing and so easily slipped into worshipping gods based in the sky and associated with astral bodies? These too require explanation!

¹ Velikovsky, I. *Earth In Upheaval*, Gollancz, 1956. pg. 5.

² *Ibid*, pg.6

³ Quoted by Donald W. Patten in his film-strip presentation lecture: 'Cataclysm From Space 2800 BC.'

⁴ *Op Cit* Velikovsky, I. pg 1-2.



Dust storm approaches Port Sudan near the Red Sea

SLAVERY

I'm sure that you're all aware of the current fad for people in positions of prominence apologising for the sins of their fathers, real or imaginary. The current one is about slavery because last year it was the 200th anniversary of its official abolition in this country, with men like William Wilberforce (pictured right) rightly taking large chunks of the credit for doing so. He wasn't the only one, and men like John Newton, of 'Amazing Grace' fame, who was once a slaver himself, weighed in and helped the cause. Politicians and leaders in the Church of England (picture below) have been very busy in this field over the past twelve months, and the Queen attended a service in Westminster Abbey where a man famously made a protest about it. I think it was because there had been no official apology for it, as he saw it.

The absurdity of apologies for the past

There's a kind of absurdity to all of this. We wonder if the Norwegians are going to apologise for the Vikings, and their raids of rape and pillage. Are the French going to apologise for Napoleon? In the *Daily Mail* last year, in their 'Straight to the Point' section – which I think are pithy sentences prob-

ably drawn from longer letters but actually making the necessary points – there was a point which went something like this: 'I am waiting for the Egyptians to apologize for enslaving my people,' and the name given was obviously Jewish.

God's answer in Ezekiel

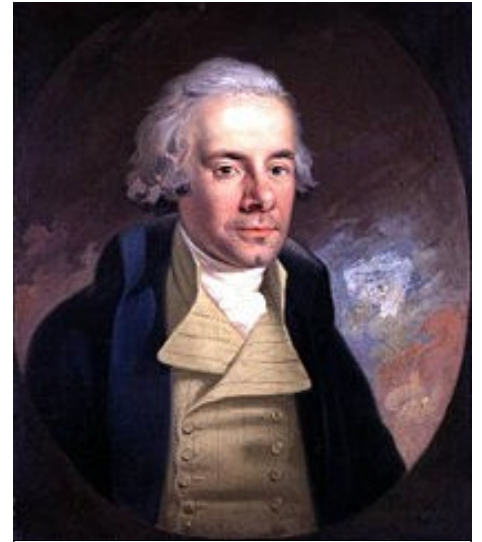
Ezekiel 18 seems to have been designed to answer questions like this. We are responsible before God and to others for our own deeds and not for the deeds, good or bad, committed by our fathers or by our sons. There is no such thing, as far as individual culpability is concerned, as family, or communal responsibility. We might well be ashamed of what our family members have done in the past, or are doing at present, but we do not have to apologise for them at all, as if we somehow share in their wickedness, guilt or failures.

Slaves and servants

I got to thinking about slavery, and its lesser form of 'servant-hood', and how it arose. Naturally I want to look at it from a biblical point-of-view, which is actually quite legitimate for non-biblical research too because the Jews have the longest continuous written history of any people anywhere. Yes, we can learn a little from archaeology about the customs and practices of ancient peoples but often this is best-guessing. The Jews have an accurate written history for over 4,000 years, and we believe it actually goes right back to the beginning of the world too, about 6,000 years - but most people outside our church doors would not accept that.

The problem of slave-owning Christians

What kick-started this train of thought in me was a programme on television about John Newton and the hymn 'Amazing Grace', which is largely autobiographical in its inspiration. He had connections with Liverpool, where he was harbourmaster for some years, and, of course, Liverpool was *THE* British slaving port – though not the only one. (As a 'Scouser' myself I find it interesting to study and go around actually seeing remnants of those days in the streets and buildings of my city, but I feel not one whit that I should apologise for my fellow Liverpudlians and what they did over 200 years ago.) During the programme they revealed that Newton was converted to a zealous, evangelical type of Anglicanism, but he still continued in his slave-trading for many years afterwards. The only thing which changed, as far as this trade was concerned, was that he used to hold compulsory church services on



William Wilberforce

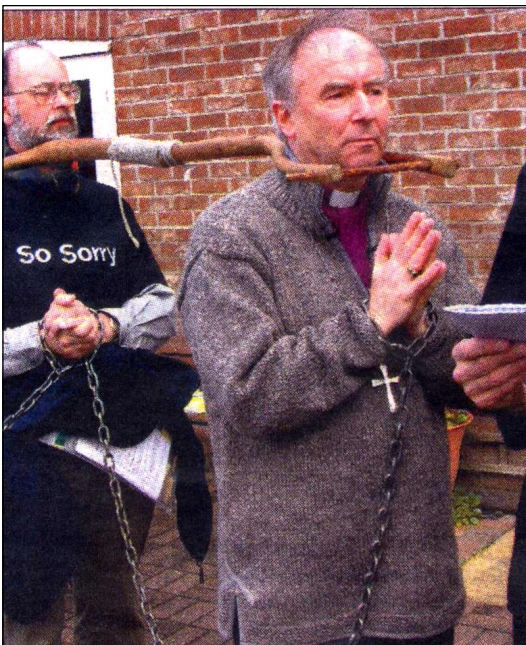
board ship. So, with a ship's hold packed full of captured slaves, he was praising God and preaching of His love to all men! Now try to get your head around that one. How could a serious Christian believer preach about the grace and goodness of a loving God and then pack people into an unsanitary ship's hold like sardines before selling them into slavery? And how could serious and sincere Christian believers actually own slaves and see no inconsistency in what they were doing?

Modern Slavery

Yet if you think that this is not really a relevant question to ask us in our generation, let me point out that it is quite possible that we in our day are holding to equally inconsistent views and practices – though maybe we are not aware of it. And if we are not personally doing so at the moment, our society most certainly is. Some of our liberal thinkers who shout most about the iniquities of British imperialism in the past, which produced and fostered slavery, are equally adamant that killing babies in the womb in the name of 'A woman's right to choose' is perfectly okay. One thing the Bible most certainly does teach us is that human nature has not changed and cannot and will not change if left to its own devices - unless God bends down and works on the heart, mind and will to improve matters.

The biblical stance on Slavery

So how could serious and sincere Bible-believing men and women engage at any level in the Slave Trade? The answer has to lie in the fact that the Bible nowhere condemns it. There are many regulations in both the Old and New Testaments about how slaves should behave towards their masters, and masters should behave towards their slaves, but nowhere is it said to be wrong. No other ancient people had regulations about masters treating slaves properly. The Jews had the most loving and generous laws of any in the ancient world about how slaves should be treated – possibly because they



Saying Sorry
The Bishop of Lincoln, Dr John Saxbee, taking part in 'The March of the Abolitionists' in Lincoln.

Church Times 16.3.07

were once slaves themselves, but definitely because God was inspiring their laws and seeing to it that justice was seen to be done to all people, whether slave or free. Moses merely took the practice and regulated it, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, of course. Paul definitely said that if a slave got the chance of freedom he should take it (1 Cor. 7:21), but even in his Letter to Philemon, about a returning runaway slave, though it gave out large hints to this sincere Christian slave-owner that forgiving Onesimus and freeing him would be the right thing to do, he stopped short of the command and left it up to the man himself to decide what was right. We like to think that he did do the right thing, but we have no means of knowing because there is no record of the result.

The origin of Slavery?

One has to wonder how such an institution like slavery, which was common throughout all the ancient world, came into being. My researches into this, which were not extensive, showed that the writers on the subject had no idea at all. They suggested that there were common routes to slavery like: a) being captured in battle and removed to the victor's country as cheap labour, b) being in debt and having no means of paying it so you sold yourself into slavery, or you

sold your children into slavery, to offset the debt. (I have never been able to get my head around the concept of the Debtors' prison. Charles Dickens's father was a wastrel who spent time in a debtors' prison and his son never forgot it. But how could a man who was banged up in gaol be expected to work off a debt and provide for his family? It doesn't make any sense to me.) Selling children into slavery to help provide for the family is still practised in many Third World countries today, where young girls are frequently sold into prostitution by their poverty



Model statue of an Egyptian handmaiden circa 2000 BC

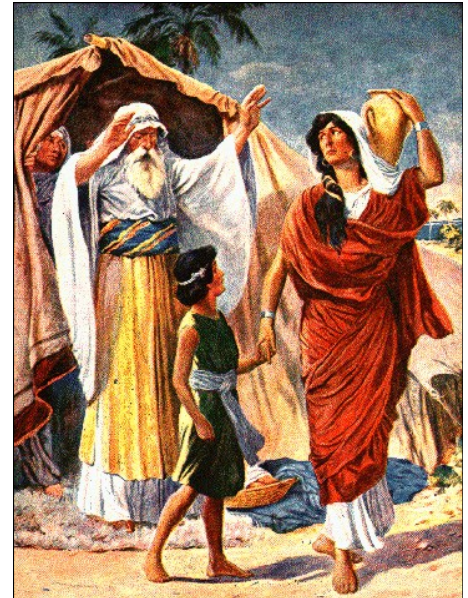
-ridden parents. It's horrible to contemplate. Also many a poor family has to work in a form of slavery today in sweat-shops working long hours for low pay so that cheap goods can be produced. Slavery still exists, or virtual slavery still exists in different forms today and, though the Slave Trade was abolished in 1807 in this country, industrialists and mine owners to all intents and purposes enslaved their workers throughout their lifetime. The song 'Sixteen Tons', made famous by Tennessee Ernie Ford in the 50s, talks about how the miners just got 'another day older and deeper in debt' as they had to buy their supplies from the company store on a Hobson's Choice principle. Many of these bosses were Christian believers too and many of them conveniently forgot that the Bible told them how to behave towards their employees, their servants or slaves if you will.

Slaves/servants not mentioned before the Flood

If we go back to Genesis to see what we can find there, there is no mention of slavery, or even of people having servants, before the Flood. Though they were all descended from Adam and Eve, and were therefore one family, this is just as true today as it ever was. But it doesn't take long to lose touch and for you to feel no sense of kinship, and therefore no sense of responsibility as a relative, for many others. I have 10 cousins on Mum's side of the family and they have 20 children between them. I know 3 of these children and absolutely none of their children, though I know some of them have some. I feel close enough to my cousins but nothing much at all for their children, and none for their grandchildren – and I'm sure that they feel the same about me and mine. I also have cousins on my father's side of the family but know only two. In other words my first cousins-once-removed are strangers to me, and that's only one generation down. It doesn't take long to lose the sense of family and feel that these people are strangers. There were 10 generations from Adam to the Flood so most people alive by then would have been virtual strangers to each other.

Hagar - the first recorded slave

It wouldn't take too long after the Flood for Noah's family to lose touch with each other and thereby lose their sense of close kinship. The division at Babel where they were separated, dispersed and isolated by new languages only accelerated the process. The first servant/slave we read about in the Bible is Hagar, Sarah's servant who had no personal choice at all about having to have a baby with Abraham so Sarah could possibly have an heir through her. It's all complicated but by Abraham's time slaves and servants were in full swing, with few individual rights over their



Hagar and Ishmael sent from the family home

lives, in society.

The Curse of Noah

Of course, the first mention of slaves is in Genesis chapter 9, where it is recorded that Noah got drunk and uttered a curse on his grandson Canaan. He prophesied that Canaan's descendents would be slaves to the descendents of Shem and Japheth. The fact that children seemed to be born much faster after the Flood and that this curse probably occurred less than 100 years after it, would indicate that slavery/servant-hood was indeed known before the Flood and it just wasn't mentioned in the text of Genesis. Noah would hardly talk about something he knew nothing at all about and it would seem unlikely that slavery got going that early after the Flood, with Noah's grandchildren enslaving each other. It was, of course, the fact that the African peoples were thought, probably correctly, to be the descendents of Ham, and that the curse of slavery was on them, which justified enslaving African people in the minds of sincere Christian believers. The Africans were under God's curse so fulfilling the curse by enslaving them was definitely not against God's will, it was actually doing it – so the argument went. I have a great book called *Noah's Curse* which goes into all of this.

Darwin was a racist!

It's a very good job that slaves got their freedom in Britain AND America before Charles Darwin's *Origin of Species* and later *The Descent of Man* became accepted into the fabric of society's thinking, since he taught that these 'primitive' people were less developed evolutionarily speaking and were therefore unfit to survive. Eugenics, or the slaughter of the less 'fit', was legitimised by Darwinism and he was definitely of the opinion that the natives of Tierra del Fuego and Tasmania were savages, little more than advanced apes, and could legitimately be



Drawing of a Fuegian

(a native of Tierra del Fuego - southern South America) made on Fitzroy's expedition in the Beagle. Charles Darwin, who was on this voyage, considered them to be not fully human and therefore expendable. They were subjected to systematic genocidal attempts as a result.

killed off. Hitler had similar views about Jews – thanks to Darwin.

Modern forms of Slavery

Economic slavery in our lands has been outlawed for 200 years, thanks to men like Wilberforce and Newton. However the concept of slavery still remains very much in the minds of the sincere and serious Christian. You see, we are all slaves to something and someone, whether we realize it or not. Many people are slaves to bad habits, which they know about only too well. Smokers are slaves to nicotine. Alcoholics are slaves to the demon drink. Drug addicts are slaves to narcotics – various – which take over their lives to a greater or lesser degree. The rich can easily be slaves to money and its acquisition and so can everybody else for, as Paul says, 'the love of money is the root of all

evil' (1 Tim. 6:10). We can be slaves to our house, our jobs, our car, our hobbies, to anything which can take over our lives in an unhealthy way if we let it.

We are all slaves to some external spiritual force or another, whether we want to believe that or not. There's a battle going on in the spiritual realm for our hearts and souls. At the committal part of a funeral service the presiding official says: 'Ashes to ashes, dust to dust', and mentally we can irreverently add: 'If God won't have you the Devil must.' There's no choice. We either belong to God or we belong to Satan. Many might like to say they belong to no one, neither God nor Satan, but are masters of their own fate. They're not. We can, however, choose whom we will serve. The Christian recognizes that he is a sinner and is in debt to God because he can't pay the price to redeem himself. There is no way at all that we can ever break free of our sinful nature under our own steam. We are in a spiritual 'Debtors' Prison' and there is no way we can work our

way out of it. We can only escape if somebody comes along and pays off our debt for us. Paul recognized this in his own life, and who had paid the debt for him: He wrote:

'I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.'

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of

sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.' (Rom 7:18-8:8).

Servants/Slaves of Christ

The difference between spiritual slavery and the human slavery we have been talking about earlier is that we have the freedom to choose whose slave we will be. We can give ourselves to Christ, willingly and voluntarily, or we can refuse to acknowledge any debt to Him at all. If we give ourselves to Him, He cancels our debt as paid in full, but we are His servants and we must serve Him. If we don't, or if we renege on the deal, we will have to pay the price for all eternity. The slaves taken from Africa as captives against their will had no control over their lives from that point on. We however are free to choose whose slave we will be. We can't, however, choose not to be a slave at all. That's not an option. We only have the freedom to decide whom we will serve: God or Satan. Each of us has made a choice no matter whether we are Christians now or not. Each of us can alter that choice, either way, before we die, that's our right and privilege. Once we are dead, however, the ultimate choice we made will follow with us through into eternal life and will determine where and how we will spend eternity.

So the challenge goes out now: 'Whose slave are you?'



DINOSAURS

Will be considered in Genesis Accepted Number 14!

Piltdown Encounter

I nosed the car bonnet carefully forwards and inched slowly towards the gates of Barkham Manor, as I had been advised to. If they swung open, we could go in; if not, we would not be welcome that day. My disappointment at being so close, yet so far, was to be put to the final test. Praise the Lord, the Manor gates slowly swung open, as the prison gates must have done for Peter, hastily escaping from Herod's clutches, with angelic help (Acts 12:10). Did we too have angelic blessing? I'd like to think we did!



The gates to Barkham Manor

Carefully we drove between the lines of trees standing like sentries forming a guard of honour. And there, at the end of the trees, we saw it on the right: the monument we had driven especially to see. I'd seen it many times in books but never in real life. It's still marking the spot where, in 1912-13, Charles Dawson had found skull and jaw fragments which were to shake the world and help fashion the scientific thinking of all of the West throughout the 20th Century and right down even to today. History was made here and I had arrived where it happened! We were standing where Piltdown Man was 'discovered'. Our world has never been the same since. It was literally **THAT** defining a moment and must never be underestimated.



The monument to the discovery of Piltdown Man erected in 1938.

What price fame?

We arrived in the little village of Piltdown on Sunday 24th February after breaking bread with our brethren on our annual church retreat. This year's had been held in a Youth Hostel on the South Downs, north of Shoreham. We'd detoured 30 miles just to see this spot, only to find it was on private land and definitely not open to the public. There are no signs pointing to its location. We asked in a garage where it was, but the only Piltdown Man the Pakistanis manning it knew was the local pub a hundred yards or so further down the road. We went in there and asked them about the site. We were told it's in a field and you need to go back to the garage, turn right and right again. We did this but didn't find it. He'd omitted a further 'right again' to his list. We'd finally found the Manor and its gates but at first had no idea we were almost there. Coming back to the road junction we saw Piltdown Pond and asked three fishermen about it. They, like the Pakistanis in the garage, hadn't a clue



'Ignorant' fisherman at Piltdown Pond

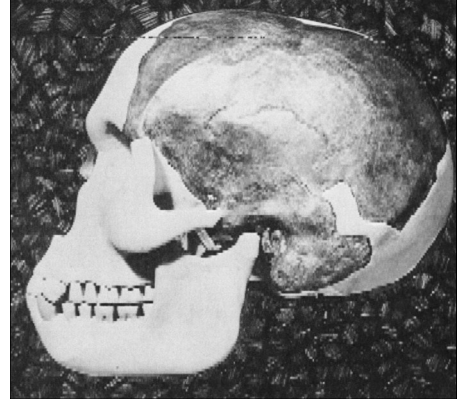
what we were talking about let alone where it was, yet they were within a few hundred yards - say about a quarter-of-a-mile - from it.

One of the brothers in our party saw a couple of local residents and decided to ask them about it, and it was these two lovely people who gave the advice we needed and told us where it was. It was an act of faith on my part to return to the gates and try out the gate-opening trick, and my faith was rewarded. I was not left peering through them in frustration, knowing it was just there but tantalisingly out of sight and of reach. I made it, as did the others in our group.

What's important about Piltdown Man?

There are many books written about Piltdown Man but it's not my intention to go into any technical detail here, since that is not my interest in it. The simple story is that over a period of time a Mr Charles Dawson (beware of all evolutionists named 'Charles D.!!') was digging in some river gravels in a pit at Barkham Manor and found a number of skull fragments and half

Reconstruction of the Piltdown skull.
(The white pieces are the bone fragments)



a jawbone. The skull had to be pieced together but was definitely human in form and the jawbone resembled that of an ape. The reconstructed skull and jaw were placed together and declared to be those of an ape-man: a perfect missing link, which evolutionists had been seeking for many years. Such a fossil would help to prove the Theory of Evolution and show that the biblical scenario of a six-day Creation, some 6,000 years ago, was entirely false. Oh how they wanted this ape-man to be the real thing!

Charles Dawson wasn't the only person digging in the pit but he was the main one.



Excavating the pit (1911).
Charles Dawson is on the right

There were other important believers in evolution who were on hand to help and, of course, give their expert opinion on the find. The Piltdown Gang (see picture over) were trusted eminent scientists in their day.



The gravel pit today, looking towards the Manor from level with the monument

It's the fault of faith!

Hebrews 11:1 tells us that '...faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.' At the turn of the 20th Century the Theory of Evolution was far from accepted as fact, unlike today where to question it is to find people labelling you as being somewhat naïve, if not downright mad. Darwin had popularized his version of the Theory in 1859 and felt certain that the evidence for changes in species, such as the most interesting one from ape to man, would be found in the fossil record once people began diligently to search for it. Thus it would only be a matter of time before his ideas would be proven correct.

This was still the feeling in the early 1960s when I took a subsidiary (minor) degree in Geology. The professor had absolute faith in the 'assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.' Though missing links stubbornly refused to appear beneath the geologists' hammers, he had no doubt that given more time they would. A further 40 years on and millions of 'rock-hounds' chipping away at favoured sites later, they still refuse to surface. Maybe even Darwin himself might have begun to despair after 150 years of failure in this area since he first proposed his slant on the Theory.

In 1912 Darwin's devotees were filled with optimism that success would soon appear somewhere, and men in different countries were vying to find an ape-man, and hoped that theirs would actually turn out to be the oldest ape-man, thereby making it the most prestigious. In 1912-13 most people in Britain avowed some sort of Christian faith and were not almost totally convinced by the anti-God Theory of Evolution. It was not difficult to recognize it truly for what it was and is. Quite a few wanted to embrace it and the Bible in an unholy mixture called 'Theistic Evolution' (God-controlled or God-directed Evolution as His method of creation), though many humanists, atheists and agnostics wanted it safely on board so that they could undermine the Bible, and Genesis in particular. They were actually not on a

scientific quest but a religious one - and still are!

The French Connection

The painting of the 'Piltdown Gang' (below) has an important omission. Deeply involved was a French Jesuit priest, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) (pictured above). He was away fighting in the First World War when the painting was done nevertheless he was a key player in the saga. Evolution for him was an all-consuming passion and he pursued it with a religious zeal to his dying day. He was one of Darwin's greatest champions and definitely the chief Roman Catholic proponent of the Theory. He was also living in the Wealden area near to Piltdown at the time of the finds.

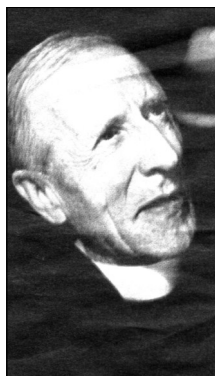
1953 - The Hoax!

Forty years after the announcement of the find at Piltdown the scientific community finally tested the bone fragments and discovered, what many admittedly had already suspected, that this was not an ape-man but an enormous scientific hoax - some feel it is **THE** greatest scientific hoax ever. Admittedly the fluorine test which proved the skull to be a forgery was not available in 1913, but there seems to have been a conspiracy to keep the actual skull carefully under wraps at the Natural History Museum for many years. Casts of the skull could be studied but the real thing was usually not made available. Arthur Smith-Woodward saw to that. Also those who authenticated it initially were in the employ of the Museum, which was dedicated to supporting the Theory of Evolution. Well it would be because one of its founders was Thomas Huxley, otherwise known as 'Darwin's Bulldog'.

The upper part of the skull turned out to be of a Medieval human and the jaw was that of a modern orang-utan, which had been deliberately stained to make it appear old, and its teeth filed down to make them fit the skull and appear to be almost human. This was not a schoolboy prank which went wrong but is readily acknowledged as a deliberate forgery designed to fool the world into believing it was a true ape-man fossil.

What was going on?

There are many speculative theories both about who orchestrated the forgery and what their/his motives were. It was a clever forgery by somebody who knew about hominoid fossils and how to make them appear to fit the expected picture. There could be two main reasons why it



fooled the eminent scientists who initially examined it: i) it didn't because they were all in on the plot, or most likely ii) being committed Evolutionists, with an almost 'religious' fervour to prove the Theory was/is correct, they wanted to believe it was true so they overlooked any tell-tale signs which they really should have noticed. In faith they wanted 'the assurance of things hoped for' so they instantly developed 'the conviction of things not seen'. The image scientists like to portray of themselves as completely objective seekers after truth, honestly examining facts and then fearlessly following where they lead, is a myth. Science does not work like that. Most researchers have an agenda and an idea of what results they are hoping to obtain in order to prove the theories they hold. They have the theory and then examine the facts to try to verify the theory. They seldom, if ever, have no underlying structure to what they are doing just letting their examination of the data suggest a theory to explain it. That would be wasteful of time and resources. There is nothing wrong with designing experiments on the basis of expectations because examining facts in a theoretical vacuum would result in nothing much happening. Examinations need direction and having a theory around which to guide them is the most productive approach. These men *wanted* to find an ape-man, so they set out to look for one and so they found one. They are after all humans just as we all are.

The Hoaxer

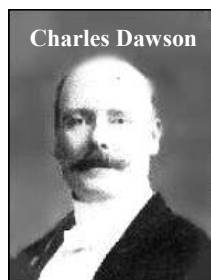
Nobody ever owned up to having done it so we are left to speculate. The favoured candidate has always been Dawson himself. He was a maverick amateur archaeologist who had a dubious track-record of dealing in fake artefacts in the past. But many think he was just the deliberately chosen fall-guy and the victim of a carefully planned plot.

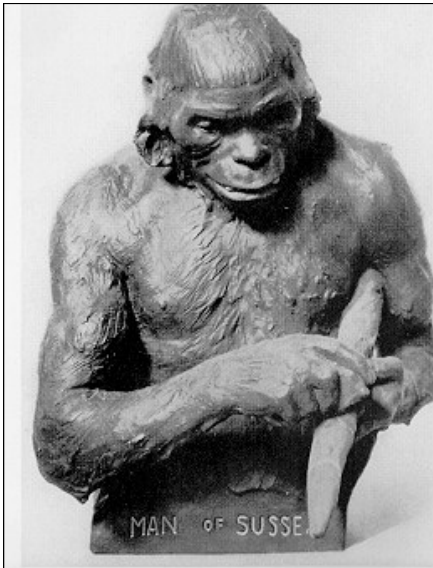
Other leading candidates include some of the others in the picture, of course, plus Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, who was a fervent Evolutionist. Also up there as a leading candidate was the French Jesuit priest, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. For him, evolution was like a religious crusade and he had the knowledge and necessary expertise to create the forgery. He was also living nearby at the time so could easily have seeded the site for Dawson to make the discoveries. Furthermore his form of religion, unfortunately, deals in bogus artefacts all the time: from Turin Shrouds, through pieces of the true Cross to totally false notions such as the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (that she did not die but went straight to heaven). If a higher authority verified these things as true, because Catholics hope they are, that's good enough for them. It's an integral part of their mind-set. Darwin was the Pope; Huxley



Photograph of a painting by John Cooke of the 'Piltdown Gang'

Back: F.O. Barlow, G. Elliot-Smith, Charles Dawson, Arthur Smith-Woodward. Front: A.S. Underwood, Arthur Keith, W. P. Pycroft and Sir Ray Lankaster.





An impression of what Pilttdown Man looked like

and others, like the Pilttdown Gang, made excellent cardinals. And they spoke *ex cathedra*. Evolution must be true!

The hoaxer, or hoaxers, would have to have been so committed to the Theory of Evolution that he/they were prepared to keep themselves in the background and let the pompous Charles Dawson take all the accolades for 'his' find (if we assume for now that the hoaxer wasn't Dawson, of course.) Furthering the cause was to be far more important than any personal glory.

The best candidate for being the hoaxer, to my mind, is indeed the religious Frenchman, Tielhard de Chardin. Malcolm Bowden, in his excellent book *Ape-Men - Fact or Fallacy?*, goes into significant detail identifying Tielhard as the hoaxer. I find his assessment convincing enough to place him at the top of my list too. That, of course, doesn't necessarily make it a correct assessment.

So Why Do It?

The obvious answer is that he wanted to dupe the world into believing in Evolution. That might be too simplistic. There is no doubt that he essentially got away with it for 40 years because too many people right at the 'gravel-pit face' wanted to believe it so were blinded by their expectations into careless acceptance.

The religious nature of Evolutionary belief may have made forgery seem worth it. After all, the Theory *IS* true, isn't it?, so helping it along isn't going to alter truth but rather will help people arrive there at a quicker pace. Unbalanced religious fervour has an unfortunate knack of closing the mind and encouraging irrational behaviour on its behalf. Muslim fundamentalism today, with its refusal to allow critical examination of the truth claims of Islam and encouragement of violent action against any opposition, maybe more extreme but it lies in the same stable as

militant Evolutionary fervour. You are not supposed to examine either Islam or Evolution as critically and severely as people examine the Bible and claims made by Christians. That Christianity holds up solidly despite attacks made on it testifies to its truthfulness, but neither of the other two can stand the heat of any similar examination, so they variously employ 'bully-boy' tactics, at different levels, of course, to deal with those who would dare to doubt or question.

How was Pilttdown Man used?

Once any similar finds are made even today, artists' impressions of what they might have looked like appear in popular publications such as newspapers and magazines. They are usually given pride of place either on, or close to, the front page. Thousands, if not hundreds of thousands or millions see them and thereby imbibe the message, 'This is how it was'. They may not be used in scientific journals but then their purpose is to win the minds of the public not the scientists. Of course, if later it is realized that a find is not what they thought it was initially, retractions are generally printed but, of course, never to the same degree as the original. They are normally tucked away in an obscure corner of the publication where far far fewer people would ever spot it. The damage is done. Most people think it is genuine because they don't see the retraction and the Theory takes an even greater hold in the public mind. Though, in fairness, the unmasking of Pilttdown Man was definitely front page news. But by then the ape-man myth was so entrenched in the general public's mind such exposure did virtually no harm. Other finds had seen to that.

Pilttdown Man was used in text books and Evolutionary publications for nearly half a century. That's a tremendous amount of misinformation passing into vulnerable and pliable minds ensuring that many, if not most, would be closed forever to the alternatives presented by the Bible. Probably its greatest triumph came in the Scopes (Monkey) Trial of 1925, where John Scopes, a science teacher, was put on trial for teaching the Theory of Evolution, which then was against the law in the state of Tennessee. This received worldwide publicity and, though Scopes was found guilty of teaching Evolution, which he never denied because he had, it was probably one of the best ever examples of a pyrrhic victory. The Creationist position was poorly defended, made to look absurd, and never recovered its status in academic circles again.

Pilttdown Man was cited as evidence in the trial but even more damaging was the actual presentation in court of a tooth - yes, just a single tooth - from Nebraska. This was used to 'prove' to the court that apemen existed, and again an illustration ap-

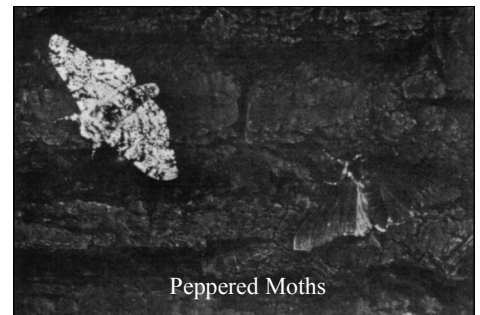


Nebraska Man (partial detail)

peared in the popular press; this time it was the *Illustrated London News*, where Mr and Mrs Hesperopithecus were shown in all their evolutionary glory for the benefit of the public. It takes an amazing imagination to construct a picture of an ape-man based on one tooth! Not too long afterwards it was shown to be the tooth of an extinct pig but by then the trial was over and the damage had already been done! It is not being suggested here that Nebraska Man was a deliberate fraud but rather it was probably a genuine mistake in the 'assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen' category.

Other frauds

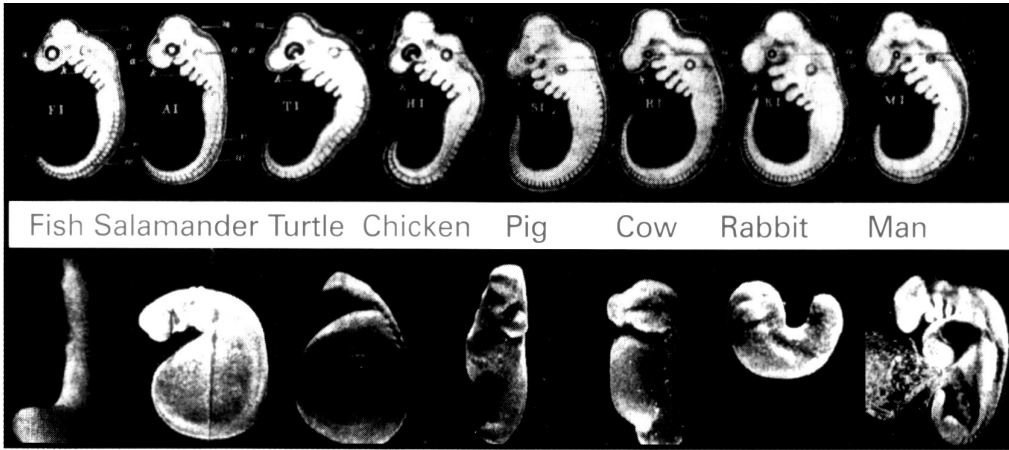
Pilttdown Man is not the only deliberate fraud perpetrated in the name of proving Evo-



Peppered Moths

lution to be true. One example still being used in biology textbooks is that of the peppered moth. There are two varieties: white and dark. In the grimy atmosphere of industrial Britain, the dark moths were favoured over the light because birds could not see them against the sooty background. As the air got cleaner and trees lightened up once more so the dark ones were more vulnerable to predation and became less numerous. This, of course, is not evolution of the microbes-to-man type but simply variation within a species or a kind. You start with a peppered moth and you finish up with a peppered moth and not a something else, not even a butterfly. Creationists never deny that this sort of natural selection occurs in nature and is simply a working out of the controls present in the gene pool.

Why this perfectly good example of variation is placed in the fraudulent category of evidence is that the researcher faked the photographs. He imported moths and pinned them to the trees, even painting some to make his point. He had to 'prove' that natural selection worked as the evolutionary mechanism



**HAECKEL'S
DIAGRAMS
TOP LINE.**

**ACTUAL EMBRYOS
BOTTOM LINE.**

**NOTE THE
DIFFERENCE.**

so people would believe in it, though this micro-evolutionary mechanism is then cavalierly applied to the macro-evolution scenario of 'microbes-to-man'. He succeeded because that is still what is believed to be true.

But there was another piece of evidence which was deliberately fraudulent yet is still often cited in textbooks. The peppered moth situation may be based on sensible evidence, just not as it was presented, but this one is totally bogus and the scientific world knows it. It is Ernst Haeckel's Recapitulation Theory of evolutionary embryonic development.

He wanted to believe that the so-called evolutionary development of humans from fish through amphibians and reptiles, to birds, mammals and man is recapitulated in the development of the foetus. So he took the early appearance of the foetus, which he likened to the fish stage because it shows gills (they are now known to be no such thing) and forged his drawings to make them co-incide with his theory. And once again, though the scientific world knows this is bogus and has discredited his work, it makes no effort to inform the general public that this is the case. This isn't even 'the assurance of things hoped for' - this is the deliberate falsity of the downright lie, just as was the Piltdown Man.

Conclusion

Our Piltdown encounter in February 2008 was amazing - well it was for me, but

my children couldn't get excited about a concrete pillar in the grounds of Barkham Manor, Piltdown. To stand where history was made and where an important event, which was to play a huge part in the thinking of modern, sophisticated, Western people, took place was magic. Had it been exposed very early on in the 20th Century, just what people would be thinking about the Theory of Evolution today without the Piltdown effect, is hard to decide. There have been other, non-fraudulent ape-man claims for finds across the globe and these have been, and are being, studied on their merits, though some crucial ones, like Peking Man, have mysteriously disappeared and now can't be studied as a result. Many don't realize that all of the finds, which are claimed to be ape-human links, could be placed into a single coffin and still leave plenty of space for more. Most are mere fragments and those skeletons which are more-or-less complete, like Lucy, can readily be identified as belonging to apes. It's a detailed study and not part of our brief here.

If there is a simple message in the story of Piltdown Man it is that the Theory of Evolution is not an objective scientific theory but is rather a quasi-religious quest. Also that its adherents are not clinically searching for truth in a spirit of open-minded enquiry letting the facts dictate the theory, but rather they are actively engaged in an attempt to defend, what is now, the

indefensible.

Going to Piltdown raised all sorts of spectres. The ghost of Piltdown Man will come back to haunt its evolutionary proponents even if most of the world, and astonishingly many of the local residents, have long since forgotten what all the fuss was about and the part their little village played in fashioning the populist Western world view of almost all of the 20th Century, and which still does in the early



See, it's not a hoax. I really was there!

21st Century - though Genesis is now steadily and vigorously fighting back as never before!



On page 4 of *Genesis Accepted* Number 12 we wrote: '...cold deserts... receive less than 10 inches (250cm) of precipitation'. It should be (250mm). (Any future reprints of Number 12 will have the correction included).

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All quotations are from the *English Standard Version* of the Bible (Anglicized version, 2002), unless otherwise indicated.

